Statement

Steps taken to control rise in price of sugar

(1) Higher release of monthly free sale quota—5 lakh tonnes during May, 1989 and 5.50 lakh tonnes during June, 1989 and 5.00 lakh tonnes for July, 1989 as against 4.50 lakh tonnes during April, 1989.

(2) The weekly restrictions on sale and despatch of sugar by sugar factories (minimum 20% in each week of the total monthly quota) have been reimposed from May, 1989.

(3) The Khandsari manufacturers were directed to declare their stocks as on 7th May, 1989 within a period of 5 days and to sell at least 25% of their opening stock during May, 1989 and 30% for each of the subsequent month from June to September, 1989 during the respective months.

(4) The stock-holding limits of sugar with the licensed dealers have been reduced from 500 quintals to 250 quintals in cities and towns with a population of one lakh or more, and from 250 to 125 quintals in towns having a population less than one lakh. The turnover period of stocks has also been reduced to 7 days from 10 days.

In respect of Khandsari dealers, the stock-holding limits have been reduced from 500 to 250 qtls. in the country.

(5) State Governments have been advised to undertake intensive deholding operations, and ensure the enforcement of various regulatory controls applicable to dealers of sugar, Khandsari and gur.

(6) Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal have been asked to check smuggling of sugar, gur and Khandsari, if any, to Nepal and Bangladesh.

(7) Monitoring of weekly despatches by the sugar mills is being done for taking corrective action against the defaulting mills.

(8) Arrangements have been finalised in consultations with Industry for sale of sugar at Rs. 7·75 per kg. through cooperative retail outlets in Delhi like Super Bazar, Kendriya Bhandar and Delhi Civil Supplies Corporation, etc., and at various outlets by Industry.

State Government have also been advised to make similar arrangements for sale of sugar at reasonable prices.

(9) Restrictions have been imposed on sale of sugar by one wholesaler to another whole-saler within the same city or urban area in the State of Punjab, Haryana, U.P., Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Union Territory of Delhi.

(10) State Governments have been advised to ensure that sugar factories located in their State comply with the sale and despatch provisions and ensure sale of entire quantity within the validity period.

(11) All the sugar factories have been advised to enter details of sale of sugar in the name of the first buyer to avoid any paper transactions.

Setting up of export oriented joint ventures in food processing industries

485. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA : Will the Minister of

FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement between India and Britain had been made recently to set up export oriented joint ventures in the food processing industry in the private and public sector in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and what are the terms and conditions of the agreement reached; and

(c) to what extent the British know-how technology in food processing field is likely to boost exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) During the visit of the Delegation from Britain in February, 1989 and during the visit of the Minister of State for Food Processing Industries to the United Kingdom in July, 1989 cooperation possibilities in the field of Food Processing Industry were explored. However, no agreement has been concluded.

Modernisation of steel plants in the country

486. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has launched a Rs. 15,000 crore programme to modernise steel plants throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details of the amount earmarked which will be spent on every steel plant separately;

(c) by when such investments will be made; and

(d) to what extent the production of steel will be boosted?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR) : (a) and (b) The Government have approved Steel Authority of India (SAIL's) and TISCO's plans, in principle, to modernise and technologically upgrade their steel plants. The details in this respect are as follows:—

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Plant	Company	Status	Likely investment
Durgapur Steel Plant	SAIL	Project sanctioned	Rs. 2667.6 crores
Rourkela Steel Plant	SAIL	In principle approval and Phase I sanctioned	Rs. 2461 crores (estimated)
Bokaro Steel Plant	SAIL	Detailed Project Report commissioned.	Rs. 1100 crores (Tentatively estimated)
Burnpur Steel Plant	IISCO (A subsidiary of SAIL)	Detailed Engineering Study commissioned.	Rs. 2928 crores (Tentatively estimated)
Jameshedpur Works of of TISCO.	TISCO	In principle approval given.	Rs. 1500 crores (estimated)